

Whereas, according to the Department of the Treasury, since early 2011, Hizballah “has provided training, advice and extensive logistical support to the Government of Syria’s increasingly ruthless effort to fight against the opposition” and has “directly trained Syrian government personnel inside Syria and has facilitated the training of Syrian forces by Iran’s terrorism arm, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps – Qods Force”;

Whereas, on September 13, 2012, the Department of the Treasury designated the Secretary-General of Hizballah, Hasan Nasrallah, for overseeing “Hizballah’s efforts to help the Syrian regime’s violent crackdown on the Syrian civilian population”;

Whereas, on October 26, 2012, Mr. Brennan stated, “Even in Europe, many countries . . . have not yet designated Hizballah as a terrorist organization. Nor has the European Union. Let me be clear: failure to designate Hizballah as a terrorist organization makes it harder to defend our countries and protect our citizens. As a result, for example, countries that have arrested Hizballah suspects for plotting in Europe have been unable to prosecute them on terrorism charges.”; and

Whereas, on October 26, 2012, Mr. Brennan called on the European Union to designate Hizballah as a terrorist organization, saying, “European nations are our most sophisticated and important counterterrorism partners, and together we must make it clear that we will not tolerate Hizballah’s criminal and terrorist activities.”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) urges the governments of Europe and the European Union to designate Hizballah as a terrorist organization so that Hizballah cannot use the territories of the European Union for fundraising, recruitment, financing, logistical support, training, and propaganda;

(2) urges the governments of Europe and the European Union to impose sanctions on Hizballah for providing material support to Bashar al Assad’s ongoing campaign of violent repression against the people of Syria;

(3) expresses support for the Government of Bulgaria as it conducts an investigation into the July 18, 2012, terrorist attack in Burgas, and expresses hope that the investigation can be successfully concluded and that the perpetrators can be identified as quickly as possible;

(4) urges the President to provide all necessary diplomatic, intelligence, and law enforcement support to the Government of Bulgaria to investigate the July 18, 2012, terrorist attack in Burgas;

(5) reaffirms support for the Government of Bulgaria by the United States as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and urges the United States, NATO, and the European Union to work with the Government of Bulgaria to safeguard its territory and citizens from the threat of terrorism; and

(6) urges the President to make available to European allies and the European public information about Hizballah’s terrorist activities and material support to Bashar al Assad’s campaign of violence in Syria.

IN-HOME MEDICARE COVERAGE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 1845, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1845) an act to provide a demonstration project providing Medicare coverage for in-home administration of intravenous immune globulin (IVIG) and to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to the application of Medicare secondary payer rules for certain claims.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1845) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. I now ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that from Friday, December 21 through Thursday, December 27, the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS THROUGH THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2012

Mr. REID. First of all, I appreciate the Presiding Officer filling in on an emergency basis to preside. It is not often we get one of the senior Members of the Senate to preside and I am grateful. It makes it so much easier on everyone else.

I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon on Monday, December 24, 2012, for a pro forma session only, with no business conducted, and that following the pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 27, 2012; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two lead-

ers be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate begin consideration of H.R. 5949, the FISA bill, and Senator WYDEN be recognized; further, that the previous order be amended so that there be up to 7 hours of debate on the bill—that is the FISA bill—and all other provisions to the previous order remain in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have been able to work things out, I hope, to everyone’s satisfaction. We are going to have a rollcall vote early in the day on Thursday. It will be at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday. It will be in relation to the FISA bill or the supplemental appropriations bill.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2012

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:19 p.m., adjourned until Monday, December 24, 2012, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

ERNEST W. DUBESTER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 29, 2017. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

CAROL WALLER POPE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2014. (REAPPOINTMENT)

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination by unanimous consent and the nomination was confirmed:

WILLIAM S. GREENBERG, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

CONFIRMATIONS

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2012:

THE JUDICIARY

MATTHEW W. BRANN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

MALACHY EDWARD MANNION, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

JON S. TIGAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

WILLIAM S. GREENBERG, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.